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JAPAN.

Report from Yokohama—Inspection of vessels—Smallpox imported from Vladivostok—Outbreak of smallpox in Nagasaki—Plague in Formosa.

Assistant Surgeon Moore reports, March 11, as follows: During the week ended March 5, 1904, three vessels having an aggregate personnel of 337 crew and 808 passengers were inspected, 389 steerage passengers were bathed, and 532 pieces of baggage were disinfected.

During the above period infectious diseases were reported in Yokohama as follows: Enteric fever, 4 cases, 0 deaths; diphtheria, 2 cases, 1 death; dysentery, 0 cases, 1 death.

Isolated cases of smallpox have recently been reported from several localities in Japan, among them the port of Moji.

In Nagasaki prefecture (which includes the city of Nagasaki), a rather threatening outbreak of the disease has occurred, reports of March 8 putting the total number of cases in the above-named prefecture at 27. Most of these cases seem to be attributed to infection conveyed from Vladivostok by refugees returning to this country as the result of the outbreak of hostilities between Japan and Russia.

The plague situation in Formosa seems recently to have assumed a more threatening aspect. Thus, in the island during the week ended March 6, 96 cases of plague with 49 deaths were reported, making the total number of cases and deaths since the beginning of this year 225 and 145, respectively.

MEXICO.

Report from Tampico—Fumigation of vessel—Smallpox at Torreon—Memorandum relative to fumigation of vessels.

Assistant Surgeon Goldberger reports, April 4, as follows:

No yellow fever has been reported since November, 1903. As, however, communication with Vera Cruz is practicaly untramelled and as there seems a fairly general and not unreasonable belief that there will be a recrudescence of the fever this summer, I consider it advisable to regard this as an infected port, and to treat departing vessels accordingly.

At the request of her agents, the steamer *Pensacola*, bound for Pensacola, Fla., was sulphured under my supervision, and a certificate to that effect issued. In this connection I have the honor to inclose a copy of a memorandum which I have this day communicated to several agents. The anchorage off La Barra referred to in the memorandum is to windward of the settlement of the same name, and is practically quite safe as regards the *S. fasciata* mosquitoes, there being no habitations of any kind on the river bank to windward of the anchorage.

It will be noted that the memorandum advises 3 pounds of sulphur per 1,000 cubic feet, a pound in excess of Bureau requirements, and that the number of pots required is calculated on a basis of not to exceed 10 pounds of sulphur to the pot. The reasons for this are, first, to allow for loss of gas through imperfections in closing doors and ventilators; and, second, the distribution of the sulphur in a large number of pots permits of more rapid combustion of the sulphur and evolution of the gas, practically essential requirements where the exposure is for only two hours.